

0E. COMIC BOOK COLLECTION

Since its creation in 2012, the Comic book Collection of the Berio Library has been conceived as an ideal continuation of a similar collection aimed at children and young adults, which is housed in the De Amicis Library. The section was thus created to attract fans of the genre among university students and adult audiences, as well as to develop a broader interest in critical essays and non-fiction works dedicated to the comic field.

From the entrance, the first thing users will come across is a small selection of essays and studies dedicated to the world of talking clouds. There are about 150 titles that include monographs dedicated to individual authors or characters, volumes on the history of comics in general or specific genres, sociological, historical, or purely technical in-depth analyses, and much more. The shelving system involves placing an "F" followed by the Dewey Decimal Classification on some volumes, to tell them apart from those of actual "drawn narrative", where the initial "F" (which becomes "AF" in the case of periodicals) is followed by the first three letters of the illustrator's last name (or, in some cases, the character's name), and then by the first three letters of the title (or the issue number).

Finally, two of the three display cases within the Comic book section showcase volumes of which the Berio Library has one of the few copies, if not the only copy, within the National Library System. The third one, instead, showcases the three comic strips, published in the spring of 2010 in the newspaper Il Secolo XIX, dedicated to Gatto Berio, the unforgettable cat who became the mascot of the Library.